

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) An electronic camera comprising:
 - an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;
 - a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;
 - a coding section for dividing the transform coefficients into transform coefficients in a selection region and transform coefficients in a non-selection region, and for generating a compressed file by allocating an information amount preferentially to the selection region to the non-selection region and coding the transform coefficients in the selection region, the selection region being a region determined in advance in an image, the non-selection region being a region other than the selection region;
 - an image evaluation section for comparing data amounts (ROI data amounts) of the coded transform coefficients in the selection region for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large ROI data amount; and
 - a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.
2. (Original) The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein
 - upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

3 (Original) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for coding the transform coefficients into coded data, and for generating a bit stream of a compressed file by arranging the coded data in a predetermined order of priority;

an image evaluation section for comparing amounts of data (interim data amounts) included in predetermined starting positions to predetermined positions of the generated bit streams for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large interim data amount; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

4. (Original) The electronic camera according to claim 3, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

5. (Original) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for coding the transform coefficients into coded data, and for generating a bit stream of a compressed file by arranging the coded data in a predetermined order of priority and cutting off the bit stream according to a target data amount;

an image evaluation section for comparing cutoff positions of the generated bit streams for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data whose bit stream has been cut off at a position close to the beginning of the bit stream; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

6. (Original) The electronic camera according to claim 5, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

7. (Original) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section into sub-bands to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for generating a compressed file by coding the transform coefficients;

an image evaluation section for comparing signal levels in high-frequency-range sub-bands of the transform coefficients for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a high signal level; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

8. (Original) The electronic camera according to claim 7, wherein
upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

9. (Original) An electronic camera comprising:
an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;
a frequency dividing section for dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section into a plurality of tiles in an image space, and for frequency-dividing the tiles to be converted into transform coefficients;
a coding section for generating coded data by coding the transform coefficients and for generating a compressed file by gathering the coded data of the tiles;
an image evaluation section for comparing coded data amounts (tile data amounts) of predetermined tiles for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large tile data amount; and
a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

10. (Original) The electronic camera according to claim 9, wherein
upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

11. (Currently Amended) An image processing program recorded on a computer readable recording medium for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program ~~allowing the computer to function as~~ comprising:

~~an imaging section~~instructions for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

~~a frequency dividing section~~instructions for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said ~~imaging section~~instructions for generating to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

~~a coding section~~instructions for dividing the transform coefficients into transform coefficients in a selection region and transform coefficients in a non-selection region, and for generating a compressed file by allocating an information amount preferentially to the selection region to the non-selection region and coding the transform coefficients in the selection region, the selection region being a region determined in advance in an image, the non-selection region being a region other than the selection region;

~~an image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing data amounts (ROI data amounts) of the coded transform coefficients in the selection region for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large ROI data amount; and

~~a recording section~~instructions for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing.

12. (Currently Amended) The image processing program according to claim 11, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing allows said ~~coding section~~instructions for dividing to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

13. (Currently Amended) An image processing program recorded on a computer readable recording medium for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program ~~allowing the computer to function as~~comprising:

~~an imaging section~~instructions for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

~~a frequency dividing section~~instructions for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said ~~imaging section~~instructions for generating to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

~~a coding section~~instructions for coding the transform coefficients into coded data, and for generating a bit stream of a compressed file by arranging the coded data in a predetermined order of priority;

~~an image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing amounts of data (interim data amounts) included in predetermined starting positions to predetermined positions of the generated bit streams for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large interim data amount; and

~~a recording section~~instructions for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing.

14. (Currently Amended) The image processing program according to claim 13, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing allows said ~~coding section~~instructions for coding to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

15. (Currently Amended) An image processing program recorded on a computer readable recording medium for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program ~~allowing the computer to function as~~comprising:

~~an imaging section~~instructions for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

~~a frequency-dividing section~~instructions for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said ~~imaging section~~instructions for generating to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

~~a coding section~~instructions for coding the transform coefficients into coded data, and for generating a bit stream of a compressed file by arranging the coded data in a predetermined order of priority and cutting off the bit stream according to a target data amount;

~~an image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing cutoff positions of the generated bit streams for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data whose bit stream has been cut off at a position close to the beginning of the bit stream; and

~~a recording section~~instructions for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing.

16. (Currently Amended) The image processing program according to claim 15, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing allows said ~~coding section~~instructions for coding to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

17. (Currently Amended) An image processing program recorded on a computer readable recording medium for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program ~~allowing the computer to function as~~comprising:

~~an imaging section~~instructions for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

~~a frequency dividing section~~instructions for dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said ~~imaging section~~instructions for generating the plurality of image data into sub-bands to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

~~a coding section~~instructions for generating a compressed file by coding the transform coefficients;

~~an image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing signal levels in high-frequency-range sub-bands of the transform coefficients for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a high signal level; and

~~a recording section~~instructions for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing.

18. (Currently Amended) The image processing program according to claim 17, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing allows said ~~coding section~~instructions for generating the compressed file to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

19. (Currently Amended) An image processing program recorded on a computer readable recording medium for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program ~~allowing the computer to function as~~comprising:

~~an imaging section~~instructions for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

~~a frequency dividing section~~instructions for dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said ~~imaging section~~instructions for generating the plurality of image

data into a plurality of tiles in an image space, and for frequency-dividing the tiles to be converted into transform coefficients;

~~a coding section~~instructions for generating coded data by coding the transform coefficients and for generating a compressed file by gathering the coded data of the tiles;

~~an image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing coded data amounts (tile data amounts) of predetermined tiles for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large tile data amount; and

~~a recording section~~instructions for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing.

20. (Currently Amended) The image processing program according to claim 19, wherein upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said ~~image evaluation section~~instructions for comparing allows said ~~coding section~~instructions for generating the coded data and the compressed file to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

21. (New) The electronic camera according to claim 1, further comprising:
a dividing section for dividing image data into a plurality of tiles,
wherein said image evaluation section compares at least one predetermined tile of the plurality of tiles divided by said dividing section.

22. (New) The electronic camera according to claim 3, further comprising:
a dividing section for dividing image data into a plurality of tiles,
wherein said image evaluation section compares at least one predetermined tile of the plurality of tiles divided by said dividing section.

23. (New) The electronic camera according to claim 5, further comprising:
a dividing section for dividing image data into a plurality of tiles,

wherein said image evaluation section compares predetermined at least one tile of the plurality of tiles divided by said dividing section.

24. (New) The electronic camera according to claim 7, further comprising:
a dividing section for dividing image data into a plurality of tiles,
wherein said image evaluation section compares at least one predetermined tile of the plurality of tiles divided by said dividing section.

25. (New) The image processing program according to claim 11, further comprising:
instructions for dividing image data into a plurality of tiles,
wherein said instructions for comparing compares at least one predetermined tile of the plurality of tiles divided by said instructions for dividing.

26. (New) The image processing program according to claim 13, further comprising:
instructions for dividing image data into a plurality of tiles,
wherein said instructions for comparing compares at least one predetermined tile of the plurality of tiles divided by said instructions for dividing.

27. (New) The image processing program according to claim 15, further comprising:
instructions for dividing image data into a plurality of tiles,
wherein said instructions for comparing compares at least one predetermined tile of the plurality of tiles divided by said instructions for dividing.

28. (New) The image processing program according to claim 17, further comprising:

instructions for dividing image data into a plurality of tiles,

wherein said instructions for comparing compares at least one predetermined tile of the plurality of tiles divided by said instructions for dividing.